

The official newsletter of the International Society for Bayesian Analysis.

Newsletter Editor:

Jeffrey H. Dorfman (University of Georgia)
JDORFMAN@AGECON.UGA.EDU

Business Address:

The ISBA NEWSLETTER
Department of Agricultural & Applied Economics
University of Georgia
315 Conner Hall
Athens, GA 30602-7509 USA

ISBA is a Scientific Society encouraging the interface between Bayesian Statistical methods and all other areas of science and policy-making.

CONFERENCES

Update on ISBA95: The Third World Meeting of the International Society for Bayesian Analysis

The Third World Meeting of ISBA held in Oaxaca, Mexico, was very successful with about 174 in attendance. There were three parallel sessions on Friday and Saturday, September 29-30 as well as an extensive Friday evening poster session and two banquets. The full and worthwhile program was arranged by Edward George and his Program Committee. They did an excellent job of selecting and grouping the talks. Enrique de Alba, President of the Organizing Committee and his colleagues made arrangements for the meeting that were excellent. The Organizing Committee coordinated with the office of advisors of the Government of Oaxaca for local arrangement. Guillermo Zarate, on the Faculty at ITAM and member of the Committee, provided very efficient support in this respect. Secretarial support was provided during the registration process by IIMAS from the National University of Mexico (Mexico City). The Governor of the State, Mr. Diodoro Carrasco, generously provided the opening dinner as well as logistic support and the group of "hostesses", those beautiful girls dressed in typical local costumes who accompanied the participants throughout the event, during registration and providing coffee and drinks between sessions. The Rector of ITAM (Mexico City), Dr. Arturo Fernandez, was always very supportive of the event, both financially as well as with personnel and physical resources.

Ms. Laura Gomez del Campo, head of the Public Relations Department of ITAM, was in charge of the registration process and supervised the "hostesses". Both the Governor of the State of Oaxaca and the Rector of ITAM attended the opening banquet. The Governor and Arnold Zellner addressed the participants. After the dinner a Folkloric local group presented typical dances from each one of the seven regions of the State of Oaxaca. The event was extremely colorful and provided foreign guests a taste of Oaxaca. At the closing banquet on Saturday night, awards were presented to Edward George and Enrique de Alba in recognition of their fine work in arranging the meeting. Also Edward George joined John Deely to make the famous Deely Awards to a select group who participated in the meeting. Thanks were also expressed to the Governor and Rector for funding the banquet and their other contributions, and to Dr. Jose Quintana and Dr. Stephen C. Peck for obtaining funds to help meet participants' travel and other expenses.

In all there were 63 talks and 18 posters. It is planned to have papers presented at the Oaxaca meeting published in a joint Proceedings Volume, our third, with the ASA SBSS's papers presented at the ASA Orlando meeting, August 1995. In addition some of the visitors had an opportunity to visit the archaeological site of Monte Alban. Arrangements were successfully made so it would not rain that day. Of the participants 52 were students, 48 Mexican and 4 American. None of the students were required to pay the registration fee. Fourteen were guests from de Oaxaca government and the remaining 108 were regular participants. Only 42 were regular members of ISBA. Thus overall, the meeting was a big success in terms of attracting students so that they can be introduced to the Bayesian approach

to Statistics. Of the remaining 112 participants, 55 were Mexican so that another purpose of the meeting was achieved: that of having substantial participation of Mexican statisticians. Geographically the participants came from the following countries: Canada (6), Chile (2), Colombia (2), Holland (1), Israel (1), Italy (1), Korea (1), Mexico (87), New Zealand (1), Russia (1), South Africa (2), Spain (4), United Kingdom (1), United States (61) and Venezuela (2).

--Enrique de Alba

MEMORIES OF THE THIRD MEETING OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR BAYESIAN ANALYSIS: From the registration table to the Deely Awards.

A few days ago, I received an invitation from Mr. Ward Edwards to the 34th Annual Bayesian Research Conference. This invitation reminded me about the wonderful experience I'd had just last September: the third meeting of the International Society for Bayesian Analysis.

The third meeting of the ISBA, which took place on September 29 and 30, down at the city of Oaxaca, Mexico, remains an unforgettable experience for me. This was my first experience in many aspects: I had never been to an International Statistics Congress... in fact, I had never been to A Congress! Besides, the only time I had been away from home was when I visited Disneyland!

First, I should say I was invited by Dr. Enrique de Alba (who is one of my teachers at ITAM) to be at the registration table for the ISBA meeting, as well as for the II Iberoamerican Statistics Congress, which took place just before the ISBA's meeting. I accepted, of course, so this gave me great opportunities for meeting people. Well, I would find out later the kind of problems that could (and did) arise, even when Dr. de Alba had planned everything perfectly. For example, the computer I was carrying, keeping the database, suddenly decided to go on a strike. Fortunately, we had a written list of the participants, so the problem was partially solved. However, when it came to the announced tour to the archeological region of Monte Alban, it wasn't that easy. (If you were there, you'll remember the trouble we had that day!) The tour, I must emphasize, was organized by the hotel... well, maybe "organized" isn't quite the appropriate word... Anyway, although everybody had previously authorized the charge for the tour,

it wasn't made (I still don't know why), so -literally- everybody "had to pay... (not exactly again, for the charge hadn't been made, but... yes...)... again". Unfortunately, not everyone knew this, the travel agency of the hotel was closed most of the time, etc,etc. Well, after an hour spent trying to make the guides understand that everyone should go on the tour, finally we reached a solution for what I've come to call "the case of the missing lunch-boxes". Well, looking back now, I wouldn't change a single moment of that week.

I must confess I am a newcomer into the field of Bayesian analysis, but this meeting made me feel I really was a part of this incredible community, where you can find both theorem provers and 100% applied Bayesians (as well as "miracle finders"). In any case, of course, I'm convinced that "Bayesians do have more fun."

Some of the things I enjoyed the most are that not only had I the chance to attend several conferences dealing with theory and applications, including those given by some of -I'm proud to say- my very own teachers at ITAM, but also I was able to talk and start a friendship with some of the participants. I was stunned by the fact of being surrounded by such important people in the field of Bayesian Analysis. I just couldn't believe I was registering people whose names I knew from my visits to the library!

There are other aspects I'll never forget about that week at the beautiful city of Oaxaca (By the way, I hope all the attendants of ISBA3 agree with me about the beauty of the place). One of them is the visit some of us did to a place called "El Sagrario" ("The Sanctuary"), located in the very heart of the city. If you think you only pray at a sanctuary, you might be impressed by knowing we didn't pray at all there! In fact, "El Sagrario" is a mix of restaurant, bar, and dancing place (there's a band playing tropical rhythms and Mexican tunes). The second night, almost all the participants were there! And what to say about the Guelaguetza show we enjoyed at the hotel? It was a beautiful, colorful display of Mexican folklore. I even have a photograph of Dr. de Alba wearing one of the gigantic, feather-made hats of the show! I'm not forgetting, of course, the ceremony of the Deely Awards... wasn't it the greatest part of all?

Well, after such an exciting week at Oaxaca, I've got wonderful memories (and pictures too). I'm already looking forward for the next meeting of this kind... I'd love to travel to Los Angeles next

February, and live again this kind of emotions! At the end of all this, there's only one question on my mind : As Efron once stated, " Why isn't everybody a Bayesian? "

--Delil Gomez Portugal Aguilar

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

To: ISBA Board Members & Int'l Advisors
From: Arnold Zellner, ISBA President
Re: Member's Meeting at ISBA95

There was a Public Members' Meeting in Oaxaca at which the following matters were discussed:

1. Treasurer's Report: Gordon Kaufman presented data on ISBA's financial position and membership (approximately 300 members as of August 31, 1995. ISBA has about \$15,000 in its bank account as a result of dues payments, revenue from meetings and royalties from sales of Proceedings Volumes. A full Treasurer's report will be available soon. It was suggested that we may need an investment advisor or committee to manage ISBA's funds. Gordon also mentioned his efforts to get ISBA members on a membership year rather than a calendar year for membership purposes. He and others emphasized the need to expand ISBA membership.

2. Arnold Zellner reported that Jay Kadane's Constitutional Committee has completed a draft of the ISBA Constitution that has been published in the Newsletter along with a request for comments. The final draft will be presented to the ISBA Board and International Advisors in the near future. If approved, it can be voted on by the membership.

Also, the Nominating Committee, headed by Mark Schervish, ISBA Secretary and Robert Kass, ISBA Vice-President have reported that preparation of a slate of candidates is nearing completion. On completion, it will be reviewed by the Board and International Advisors and, if approved, sent to the members for their votes.

3. The following future meetings of ISBA were discussed and it was agreed that steps needed to get them implemented should be taken.

a. Fourth World Meeting in Cape Town, South Africa, Dec. 16-20, 1996. Dan de Waal of the Orange Free State U. has agreed to be Program

Chair and Tim Dunne of the U. of Capetown has agreed to be Chair of the Organizing Committee. There will be a need for financing for the meeting. U.S., European, Asian and other sources of support are needed. Please send your suggestions.

b. Regional meeting in Chicago, Friday and Saturday, Aug. 2-3, 1996 just before the Joint Statistical Societies' Meeting, Aug. 5-9, 1996, leading to a fourth joint Proceedings Volume with the ASA SBSS. Many expressed support for such a meeting along the lines of the very successful Friday-Saturday meetings in San Francisco and Toronto. It was indicated that Program and Organizing Committee Chairs and Members will be appointed.

c. Fifth World Meeting in Ankara, Turkey in August 1997 directly after or before the ISI Meeting in Istanbul in August, 1997. Local arrangements for such a meeting have already been explored according to reports from Refik Soyer and Prem Goel. The group expressed an interest in meeting in Turkey and left details to be worked out.

d. Sixth World Meeting in New Zealand in 1998. John Deely mentioned that he would look into this possibility and report results to the Board.

e. Joint regional meeting with the Maxent-Bayes group in Vancouver in 1997.

f. Joint meeting with Ward Edwards' Decision Analysis Group in London in the year 2,000 to usher in the Century of Bayes. The group reacted favorably and suggested a pilgrimage to Bayes' grave.

4. Arnold Zellner noted that several, including Ward Edwards (Decision Analysis Group), Richard Silver (Maxent-Bayes Workshop) and Robert Kass (Bayes Empirical Workshop) had contacted him suggesting establishment of linkage between ISBA and their groups. After some discussion of the meaning of these links, it was decided to get more information on these suggested linkages and then make decisions with respect to them later.

5. It was reported that the ISBA Newsletter is functioning well. Jeffrey Dorfman has appointed Associate Editors and instituted a graduate students' section. Please send any suggestions that you have to him.

6. Use of \$500 from the proceeds of the Oaxaca meeting to help meet the expenses of Mexican graduate students attending the meeting was approved. Enrique de Alba volunteered to administer the allocation of these funds.

7. Richard Silver and Carlos Rodriguez have reported that there are not many users of the ISBA Archive Service. Silver recommended that all papers presented at the Oaxaca meeting be entered into the Archive. Edward George has volunteered to look into this matter. Others suggested that the instructions for entering papers have to be simplified. Some offered to check on this possibility.

8. At a dinner and at the meeting, ideas for having the Council of Sciences become more active were discussed by Donald Berry, Seymour Geisser, Ward Edwards, Merlise Clyde, Edwin Green and other members of the COS.

Sponsoring sessions at meetings, preparing review papers, and initiating Bayesian research workshop groups in various areas were ideas that were discussed.

9. At the end of the Public Members' Meeting, there was a unanimous vote to thank Edward George, Enrique de Alba and others who helped make the Oaxaca meeting so successful.

If you have any reactions to the above items, please let me know by mail, fax (312-702-0458), phone (312-702-7145) or e-mail (arnold.zellner@gsb.uchicago.edu). Thanks for your cooperation in this matter and best personal regards.

Cordially,

--Arnold

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

The Spring Meeting of the International Biometric Society (Eastern North American Region), next March 17 - 20, in Richmond, Virginia, will be of considerable interest to SBSS members. Here are a few examples from the planned invited paper sessions (some titles are tentative).

Brad Carlin has organized a session on "Applications of Markov Chain Monte Carlo." Prakash Laud of the Medical College of Wisconsin will present "MCMC methods for Bayesian

analysis of frailty models," Giovanni Parmigiani of Duke University will present "New strategies for model mixing in biostatistical analysis," and Steve MacEachern of Ohio State University will present "Identifiability and MCMC methods." Larry Wasserman of Carnegie Mellon University will lead the discussion.

A session on "Applications of Model Choice and Model Averaging in Biometry," organized by Giovanni Parmigiani, will include "Variable selection in pharmacokinetic population modelling," presented by John Wakefield of Imperial College (London); "Ranking in designed experiments via model mixing: An application to protein storage," presented by Merlise Clyde of Duke University; and a paper (title not available) by David Madigan of the University of Washington. Jim Hodges of the University of Minnesota will be the discussant.

Kathryn Chaloner of the University of Minnesota organized a session on "Design of Biometric Experiments: Recent Developments" and also will present one of the papers, "Bayesian design: A review of biometric applications and an example," with Isa Verdinelli of Carnegie Mellon University. Other papers will be by Robert K. Tsutakawa and Dongchu Sun of the University of Missouri, Columbia, on "Bayesian design for dose responses penalizing unexpected outcomes;" and by Tim O'Brien of Washington State University on "Quadratic design criteria in biometric settings." Merlise Clyde will serve as discussant.

For more information on local meeting arrangements contact Chris Gennings, Department of Biostatistics, Box 32, Medical College of Virginia, Richmond, VA 23298-0032; phone 804/828-9824; fax 804/828-8900; e-mail gennings@ruby.vcu.edu.

ISBA 96:

Dear friends, I am happy to report that Dan de Waal of the Math. Stat. Dept., U. of Orange Free State, South Africa, has accepted my invitation to be Program Chairman for the 4th World ISBA96 mid-December meeting in Cape Town. Current members of the Program Comm are: Jim Press, Herman van Dijk, John Geweke, Franz Palm and Jack Lee. de Waal will appoint additional members of the Prog. Comm. Please try to help him in any way possible, e.g. by arranging sessions, suggesting speakers, etc. Further, sending him notes congratulating him on his

appointment and offering to help would be most appreciated.

Tim Dunne of the Math. Stat. Dept., U. of Cape Town is Chairman of the Organizing Committee for ISBA96 and has circulated info re arrangements for the meeting. Please send him any suggestions that you may have re organizational aspects of the meeting. I believe that he intends to schedule Bayesian educational workshops directly before ISBA96 for grad students and others who want to learn the essentials before attending the regular meetings.

All the best, Arnold

Chicago Regional Meeting of ISBA, Fri-Sat., Aug. 2-3, 1996. This ISBA meeting will be held in close proximity to the Joint Statistical Meetings (ASA, IMS, etc.), also scheduled for Chicago, Aug. 5-8, 1996, and to central hotels servicing both meetings. Papers presented at the ISBA meeting will be published in another joint Proceedings Volume with the ASA Section on Bayesian Statistical Science. Currently, many sessions on a variety of topics are being organized for the ISBA meeting. These include sessions on MCMC integration theory and applications, Bayesian testing, forecasting, information theory, econometrics, marketing, quality control, actuarialscience, etc. Those who are arranging these sessions have been appointed to the Program Committee Chaired by John Geweke (geweke@Bayes.econ.umn.edu ; fax (612) 624-0209), Dept. of Economics, U. of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN 55455. If you would like to propose a session or paper for the meeting, please send a title and abstract to Geweke by May 15, 1996. Proposed papers will be assigned to regular sessions or to a poster session scheduled for Friday evening with an open bar. Sessions will be held Friday afternoon and all day Saturday, followed by a Saturday night banquet, much along the lines of the successful Fri.-Sat. meetings held in San Francisco (Prog. Chair, Rob McCulloch, U. of Chicago) and in Toronto (Prog. Chair, Mike Evans, U. of Toronto).

It is planned to have the meeting in the new Downtown Center Building of the U. of Chicago on the banks of the Chicago River close to the downtown hotels, museums, "miracle mile" shopping area and great restaurants. Registration forms and additional information will be provided along with the March issue of the ISBA

Newsletter. See you in Chi!

STUDENT CORNER NEWS

In the last newsletter, we solicited ideas about the people, books, and ideas that are influential in Bayesian statistics. We received two responses, both from econometricians: John Burkett (burkett@uriacc.uri.edu) and Samita Sareen (ssareen@epas.utoronto.ca).

Burkett was attracted to Bayesian ideas because they offered "the best solution to the problem of combining data with uncertain prior information in regression analysis." He cites E. Leamer's book *Specification Searches: Ad Hoc Inference with Nonexperimental Data* as influential.

Sareen was attracted to Bayesian ideas because "Decision making under uncertainty is what life is all about. And if you want to make any decisions that are in consonance with reasonable assumptions of behavior, then there is only one way of doing it: become a Bayesian." She cites D. Poirier's *Intermediate Statistics and Econometrics* and L. J. Savage's *Foundations of Statistics* as influential books.

If you would like add your opinions, please send your answers to the following questions to Alyson Wilson by e-mail at alyson@isds.duke.edu. (1) Why did you become a Bayesian? (2) Which book was the most influential? (3) Which person was the most influential? (4) When and where did you receive your training in statistics, and specifically in Bayesian statistics?

Below, we continue our look at the research projects pursued by graduate students and recent graduates in Bayesian statistics. If you would like to contribute an abstract to this ongoing feature, please contact Alyson Wilson at alyson@isds.duke.edu.

Petros I. Hadjicostas (petros@stat.cmu.edu), Department of Statistics, Carnegie Mellon University

PROBABILISTIC ANALYSIS OF ASSOCIATION REVERSAL PHENOMENA

"Simpson's paradox" is a popular name associated with a group of apparently paradoxical phenomena related to the change of association

between two groups of variables when marginalizing out or collapsing over a third group of variables. It is also known as the problem of spurious correlation, the association reversal phenomenon (ARP), and the amalgamation paradox (AMP). The main topic of this thesis is the probabilistic analysis of ARP, that is, the calculation of the probability that an ARP occurs in a

In this thesis, two major problems are examined. The first problem is as follows: Assume that within each of $n \geq 2$ subpopulations the conditional cell proportions of the 2×2 subtable describing the relationship of two attributes A and B are known exactly. The proportion, however, of each subpopulation in the population is not known. Assume that A and B are positively associated within each subpopulation. Give necessary and sufficient conditions for an ARP to occur.

The second problem is as follows: Assume that the joint cell proportions of the 2×2 table describing the relationship of two attributes A and B in a population are known exactly. Assume also that A and B are negatively associated in the population. If the table is subdivided into two 2×2 subtables (corresponding to the levels of a third, possibly unknown, binary factor) in a way unknown to the analyst, describe a way of finding how probable it is for an ARP to occur.

The calculation of the probability of Simpson's paradox has been studied before by Huh (1987) and Jeon, Chung, and Bae (1987), but their treatment of the subject is different from the one adopted in this thesis. In this thesis, probability is derived from the distribution the analyst assumes about the unknown parameters. In the above papers, probability is derived from randomization.

Alyson Wilson (alyson@isds.duke.edu), Institute of Statistics and Decision Sciences, Duke University/CPR, Inc., El Paso, TX

STATISTICAL MODELS FOR SHAPES AND DEFORMATIONS

Bayesian methods are valuable in image analysis because there is often a priori information that can contribute to the analysis of an image. This prior knowledge may be general (e.g., intensities vary smoothly across the image), or may be more specific (e.g., this is an image of a brain that may have a tumor). This dissertation develops flexible methods to incorporate prior knowledge from

templates into algorithms for image analysis within a Bayesian framework.

The priors build on previous work in Bayesian image analysis by incorporating ideas from Markov random field priors and deformable template models. The prior models differ from standard applications of MRF models in that the sites in the fields represent image objects, and the random variables associated with the sites represent their locations. Another crucial idea grows from methods in computer vision research. Features in an image occur at a variety of scales.

Other important aspects of the prior include quantifying feature similarity between image, locating landmarks within images, and measuring distances and spatial relationships between landmarks. The priors address these issues and incorporate the feature and location information into a hierarchical model. The hierarchical framework is natural for handling deformations and obstructions. Further, it allows the modeling of such properties as "the location of large-scale features is less variable than the location of small-scale features."

The priors on landmarks are used to perform automatic landmark identification. They also hold promise for tasks like automatic object recognition.

Lara Wolfson (lara@stat.cmu.edu), Carnegie Mellon University/University of Waterloo

BAYESIAN DEMOGRAPHY: PROJECTING THE IRAQI KURDISH POPULATION, 1977-1990

A typical population projection involves performing the arithmetic calculations to project a population from time T to time S ($S > T$), given a set of assumptions about such population characteristics as fertility, mortality, and migration. These projections are often used as forecasts, yet they are valid forecasts only if the initial set of assumptions hold throughout the projection period. In this paper, we propose a Bayesian population projection technique that incorporates a demographer's uncertainty about these assumptions.

PRIORS FOR UNIT ROOT MODELS

In the recent debate about unit roots, part of the discussion now centers on what prior is correct to use. From the perspective of subjective

Bayesians, this question seems ill posed. To the extent that the likelihood is sharply peaked, the prior will not matter much. To the extent that the likelihood is flat, the posterior depends principally on the prior. A special consideration in unit roots models is that the spaces $\rho < 1$, $\rho = 1$, and $\rho > 1$ have very different economic implications. A better way prior is to study its connections with these implications through prior elicitation.

In each of the ρ intervals, a conjugate prior (i.e. normal-inverse gamma) is fit to the elicited opinion of an expert. Since the likelihood in each interval is normal, the posterior is of the same form as the prior (i.e. piecewise normal-inverse gamma), so this family of priors is closed under sampling.

A modification of existing methods for the normal linear model permits elicitation of this expanded family of prior distributions. An example elicitation of a macro-economist is

discussed. (with J. Kadane and N. H. Chan, submitted to *Econometrics*)

Nancy Paul Silliman (sillimann@cder.fda.gov), Carnegie Mellon University/U.S. Food and Drug Administration

HIERARCHICAL SELECTION MODELS WITH APPLICATIONS IN META-ANALYSIS

This paper introduces hierarchical selection models and illustrates how they may be used in meta-analysis. Our approach combines the use of hierarchical models, which allow one to investigate variability both within and between units (e.g., studies), and weight functions, which allow one to model non-randomly selected data. We show how Markov Chain Monte Carlo methods may be used to estimate the hierarchical selection model. This approach is illustrated first for known weight functions, and then extended centers.

Weight functions provide an approach for examining sensitivity of results to bias in the way studies are obtained. However, this is shown to be different from examining sensitivity to unobserved studies directly. In order to investigate sensitivity of results to unobserved studies, while still accounting for between-study variability and bias in the collection of the observed studies, the hierarchical selection model approach is combined with data augmentation to account for unobserved studies.

NON-PARAMETRIC CLASSES OF WEIGHT FUNCTIONS TO MODEL PUBLICATION BIAS

This paper addresses the use of weight functions to model publication bias in meta-analysis. Since this bias is hard to gauge, we introduce a non-parametric epsilon-contamination class of weight functions. We then illustrate how to explore sensitivity of conclusions to the specification of the weight function by examining the range of results for the entire class.

We find lower bounds on the coverage of confidence intervals. If no publication bias is present, results are robust even when considered over the entire epsilon-contamination class. However, if publication bias is present, then the coverage provided by the usual interval estimator is not robust. In this case, an alternative interval estimator is suggested. We also illustrate how both upper and lower bounds on posterior quantities of interest may be found for the case in which prior information is available.

--Alyson Wilson

BOOKS: A new section alerting ISBA Members to books of potential interest - JHD

Adaptive Designs. IMS Monograph (1995) Many of the papers are explicitly Bayesian, and the rest, well Jim Berger told me that all designs are Bayesian. It sells for a modest \$24 and can be obtained from the IMS Office. Nancy Flourney, editor.

Bayesian Data Analysis. Andrew Gelman, John B. Carlin, Hal S. Stern and Donald B. Rubin Chapman and Hall. 1995.

"Bayesian Data Analysis" is a comprehensive treatment of the statistical analysis of data from a Bayesian perspective. Modern computational tools are emphasized, and inferences are typically obtained using computer simulations. The principles of Bayesian analysis are described with an emphasis on practical rather than theoretical issues, and illustrated using actual data. A variety of models are considered, including linear regression, hierarchical (random effects) models, robust models, generalized linear models and mixture models. Issues of data collection, model formulation, computation, model checking and sensitivity analysis are all considered. The book is

both a research monograph and a textbook; it contains many worked out examples and over 150 exercises.

Additional information including the full table of contents and the index can be obtained via the book's World Wide Web homepage [http:// stat-www.berkeley.edu/users/gelman/book](http://stat-www.berkeley.edu/users/gelman/book).

The book costs \$46 (U.S.) and can be ordered from Chapman and Hall. Contact Pam Hounsome (pamela.hounsome@itps.co.uk).

Measurement, Regression, and Calibration. Philip J. Brown. (1994) Clarendon Press, Oxford. ISBN 0-19-852245-2 \$45. This research monograph deals with regression problems that are not commonly covered in statistical methodology courses but which often arise in applications. Some chapters, of the book could be used as self-contained units for teaching at the graduate level.

A substantial part of the book is fully Bayesian. The applications are taken from the authors own consulting experience in the food, chemical and pharmaceutical industries.

FROM THE MAILBAG

Free Reader for Bayesian Analysis E-Print (Working Paper) Archive

PostScript files can sometimes be unstable and unreliable especially when transmitting across platforms (UNIX, DOS, WINDOWS, MAC). Portable Document Format (pdf) files are specifically designed to cross platforms without distortion. PDF files also support hyperlinks that enable the reader to jump to referenced documents just by clicking on the reference, as well as simultaneous, full text search of all pdf documents in the archive. Adobe Acrobat Exchange and Adobe Acrobat Pro both have the PDF Writer for creating pdf files from any WordPerfect, MSWord, TeX, etc. document. In addition, Adobe Acrobat Pro and Adobe Pagemaker have a "Distiller" to convert PostScript files into pdf files which then can be sent to the Bayesian Analysis E-Print Archive via e-mail or ftp. The Adobe Acrobat Reader that reads and

prints pdf files is available free for various platforms (UNIX, DOS, WINDOWS, MAC) by using any Web browser such as Netscape or Mosaic at the URL: "<http://www.adobe.com>" or by using ftp from: "<ftp://ftp.adobe.com>".

ISBA Council of Sciences (COS) Edwin J. Green, a member of the COS, has been appointed Chair of the COS to replace Donald A. Berry. Ed is currently planning new activities for the COS. If you have any suggestions, please send them to him at: green@ocean.rutgers.edu or fax: (908) 932-8746 or Dept. of Natural Resources, Cook College, Rutgers U., P.O.Box 231, New Brunswick, NJ 08903-0231.

Advisory Committee for the ISBA Electronic Archive Service (EAS) Hugh A. Chipman, U. of Chicago, Robert Kass, Carnegie Mellon U., and Lawrence C. Marsh, U. of Notre Dame have been appointed to this new Advisory Committee that will provide assistance and advice to Richard N. Silver, Los Alamos National Laboratory and Carlos Rodriguez, State U. of New York who instituted the EAS and are managing it. The EAS has been described in an earlier issue of the ISBA Newsletter. Those wishing to serve on this Advisory Committee please contact Arnold Zellner at: arnold.zellner@gsb.uchicago.edu or fax (312) 702 0458.

ISBA members can purchase the joint proceedings issues of the American Statistical Association's Bayesian Statistical Science Section and ISBA. Volumes are still available for both 1994 and 1993. The member price is US\$30.00 and the nonmember price is \$45.00, both must add \$3.50 for shipping and handling. You can write to: ASA, 1429 Duke Street, Alexandria, VA 22314-3402 or contact by phone: (703)684-7221, Fax: (703)684-2036, Email: CLAUDINE@AMSTAT.ORG

Mark Schervish, Carnegie Mellon Univ., in putting the finishing touches on a full slate of candidates for new ISBA officers. Members should expect to receive a ballot in February or March 1996 with candidates for the various offices and a referendum on the draft ISBA Constitution. Anyone interested in standing for an ISBA office can contact Prof. Schervish at: MARK@STAT.CUM.EDU or Dept. of Statistics, Carnegie Mellon Univ., Pittsburg, PA 15213.

All members should take note that now is the time to renew your ISBA membership. All memberships are now on a calendar year basis,

so please submit dues now. Enclosed with the newsletter is a membership renewal form.